
From: Michael Blanding [michael@michaelblanding.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 11:00 AM
To: FOIA Resource
Subject: FOIA request: documents in response to December 15, 2011 letter by Congressman Fred Upton
Attachments: 121511NRC.pdf

Michael Blanding, Fellow
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FOIA/PA REQUEST

Case No.: 2012-0150
Date Rec'd: 2/22/12
Specialist: Y Mcowry
Related Case: _____

February 22, 2012

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
FOIA/Privacy Officer
Mailstop: T-5 F09
Washington, DC 20555-0001

FOIA REQUEST
Expedited processing requested

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552, I request access to and a copy of all documents provided in response to the December 15, 2011 letter by Congressman Fred Upton which requested:

1. All documents provided by the NRC and its individual Commissioners in response to the October 25, 2011 letter from Congressman Edward J. Markey, which requested voting records and all related documents, including, but not limited to, those kept by the NRC Office of the Secretary, for all actions taken or considered by the Commission in response to the issues raised by the events at Fukushima.
2. All documents relating to the NRC's response to the press concerning the Commissioners' October 13, 2011 correspondence to and from the White House and/or the Congressional hearings on December 14 or 15, 2011.
3. An explanation why the Committee on Energy and Commerce Chairman and Ranking Member were not formally notified of the release of sensitive Commission voting records to a Member of this Committee.

A copy of this letter is attached.

I would like to receive the information in the following format: electronic.

As a representative of the news media I am only required to pay for the direct cost of duplication after the first 100 pages. Through this request, I am gathering information on the nuclear power industry that is of current

interest to the public because of concerns over the safety and reliability of nuclear power. This information is being sought on behalf of the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University for dissemination to the general public. I am a freelance magazine writer with 20 years of experience in investigative reporting, whose work has been published in The Nation, The New Republic, Salon, Consumers Digest, The Boston Globe, and other publications. The information from this request will be used in preparation for a news article.

Please waive any applicable fees. Release of the information is in the public interest because it will contribute significantly to public understanding of government operations and activities.

If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act. I will also expect you to release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material. I, of course, reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information or to deny a waiver of fees.

As I am making this request as a journalist and this information is of timely value, I would appreciate your communicating with me by telephone, rather than by mail, if you have questions regarding this request.

Please provide expedited processing of this request which concerns a matter of urgency. As a journalist, I am primarily engaged in disseminating information. The public has an urgent need for information about the nuclear power industry because of concerns over the safety and reliability of nuclear power in the wake of the Fukushima nuclear accident last year. The information is particularly timely due to the increase in public interest around the one-year anniversary of the Fukushima accident, March 11, 2012. I certify that my statements concerning the need for expedited processing are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I look forward to your reply within 20 business days, as the statute requires.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Michael Blanding

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